

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH



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Welcome to Worship

December 3, 2023— Advent 2

Today's Worship Ministers

Usher: Ray Golden
Reader: Ellen Shrader
Communion Assistant: N/A
Narthex Host: Linda McGuire
Flowers:

Staff

Pastor: Jamie Gallagher
Cell: 630-200-3550; Email: prjamie@flcmonmouth.org
Musician: Janice Algren
Custodian: Chris Algren

Check out Our Welcome Center



Under the window to the Narthex .. We have offering plates and a bin for vision and purpose giving.

Weekly newsletters are available as well.

Coffee and other refreshments are available at the Narthex Coffee Stand.

Upcoming Advent/Christmas Schedule

Sat, Dec 9, 2 PM—Family Sankta Lucia Event
Sun, Dec 10—Sankta Lucia Sunday
Sun, Dec 24—10 AM Christmas Eve worship
7 PM Christmas Eve worship
With candlelight
Sun, Dec 31—10 AM Lessons and Carols
With Blessing for the New Year

Order of Service

Gathering

Announcements, Prelude
Advent Wreath Litany
Advent Wreath Reading: Luke 21:1-4
Advent Wreath Hymn: ELW 240 Light One Candle, v1-2
Peace
Opening Hymn: ELW 257 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel v1-4

The Word

Pastoral Greeting
Advent Litany
Hymn of Praise: Glory Be to God on High

Prayer of the Day

God of daybreak, your mercy meets us in our times of distress and you rejoice when we offer our praise for the promises you have kept. Focus our eyes on your salvation and lead us, with the prophets of every age, to proclaim the way of the Lord. In the name of our Coming Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen

Isaiah 40:1-11

Luke 1:57-80

Gospel Refrain: "Oh Thank the Lord"

Sermon

Hymn: ELW 250 Blessed Be the God of Israel
Apostles' Creed

Prayers of Intercession

Linda Ellison, Ila Roseberry, Kathi Cruce, Erica Lancaster, Dean Sandstrom, Emily Agema, Chris Buban, Gary Eyler, Cecil Lovdahl, Ann Enstrom, Janet Lowe, Brian Elliott

Sending

Offering Prayer
Lord's Prayer
Hymn: ELW 439 Soon and Very Soon
Benediction
Benediction Refrain: ELW 290 Go Tell It On The Mountain,
Refrain, sung 1
sung once
Dismissal

Luke 21:1-4 Wreath Reading

21 He looked up and saw rich people putting their gifts into the treasury; 2 he also saw a poor widow put in two small copper coins. 3 He said, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them, 4 for all of them have contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in all she had to live on.”

Isaiah 40:1-11

40 Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. 2 Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord’s hand double for all her sins. 3 A voice cries out: “In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. 4 Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. 5 Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.”

6 A voice says, “Cry out!” And I said, “What shall I cry?” All flesh is grass; their constancy is like the flower of the field. 7 The grass withers; the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. 8 The grass withers; the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever. 9 Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, “Here is your God!” 10 See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him and his recompense before him. 11 He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms and carry them in his bosom and gently lead the mother sheep.

Luke 1:57-80

57 Now the time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. 58 Her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her.

59 On the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and they were going to name him Zechariah after his father. 60 But his mother said, “No; he is to be called John.” 61 They said to her, “None of your relatives has this name.” 62 Then they began motioning to his father to find out what name he wanted to give him. 63 He asked for a writing tablet and wrote, “His name is John.” And all of them were amazed. 64 Immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue freed, and he began to speak, praising God. 65 Fear came over all their neighbors, and all these things were talked about throughout the entire hill country of Judea. 66 All who heard them pondered them and said, “What then will this child become?” For indeed the hand of the Lord was with him.

67 Then his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied:

68 “Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them. 69 He has raised up a mighty savior for us in the house of his child David, 70 as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old, 71 that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us. 72 Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors and has remembered his holy covenant, 73 the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham, to grant us 74 that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies, might serve him without fear, 75 in holiness and righteousness in his presence all our days. 76 And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, 77 to give his people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins. 78 Because of the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, 79 to shine upon those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.”

80 The child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the wilderness until the day he appeared publicly to Israel.